

MICHIKO OKUDA

JULY 1, 1952.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

Mr. WALTER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2289]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2289) for the relief of Michiko Okuda, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to enable the Japanese fiancée of a citizen veteran of World War II to enter the United States for the purpose of marrying her citizen fiancé and to thereafter reside in the United States.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The beneficiary of the bill is a native and citizen of Japan presently residing in Tokyo. She is engaged to Paul S. Tani, a native-born citizen of the United States and an honorably discharged veteran of World War II. While on duty in Japan he became engaged to the beneficiary of the bill.

A letter, with attached memorandum, dated April 3, 1952, to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

APRIL 3, 1952.

HON. PAT MCCARRAN,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR SENATOR: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (S. 2289) for the relief of Michiko Okuda, an alien. The bill would provide for the alien's temporary admission into the United States for the purpose of marrying Paul S. Tani, a United States citizen, and would require that she depart in the event the marriage does not take place within the specified time. It would also grant her permanent residence in the event the marriage does occur.

A memorandum of information prepared by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department concerning the alien and her fiancé is enclosed.

Whether, under the circumstances in this case, the general provisions of the immigration laws should be waived presents a question of legislative policy concerning which this Department prefers not to make any recommendation.

Sincerely,

A. DEVITT VANECH,  
Deputy Attorney General.

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FROM IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION  
SERVICE FILES RE MICHIKO OKUDA, BENEFICIARY OF S. 2289, AND HER FIANCÉ,  
PAUL S. TANI, UNITED STATES CITIZEN

Miss Okuda is a native and citizen of Japan of the Japanese race, residing in Tokyo, Japan. The files contain no further information concerning her.

Mr. Paul S. Tani, the alien's fiancé, who is of Japanese ancestry, was born in Eaton, Colo., on June 19, 1922. He is presently residing in Fort Worth, Tex. His parents, natives of Japan, were married in the United States and now reside in Cheyenne, Wyo. His brother, sister, and brother-in-law are in Japan as civilian employees of the United States Department of Defense.

Mr. Tani was inducted into the United States Army on July 31, 1944, and served continuously therein until August 20, 1948. After he was discharged he attended Texas A and M and thereafter Texas University, receiving his bachelor of science in mechanical engineering in June 1951. Immediately after receiving his degree he accepted employment as an engineer with the Bell Aircraft Corp. in Buffalo, N. Y. He was transferred to Texas about November 1, 1951. Mr. Tani stated that he intends to marry the alien, whom he met while on duty in Japan, immediately upon her admission to this country.

Inasmuch as Miss Okuda is of the Japanese race she is ineligible to citizenship in the United States and therefore is inadmissible for permanent residence. In the absence of special legislation she is unable to come to the United States for permanent residence.

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney, the author of the bill, has submitted additional information in support of the bill, among which is the following letter:

BUFFALO, N. Y., October 10, 1951.

Senator JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY,  
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

SIR: Acknowledgment is first made to your letter of September 26. Please allow me to thank you for the kind interest you have taken in my case and behalf. With your permission, I shall try to relate as much of the information which you requested as I can at present.

Enclosed are the same certificates of discharge and military transcripts which you were so kind as to assist me in obtaining in 1948, as well as pocket photostats of my discharge as a warrant officer. These certificates are my only copies and I would like them returned. If necessary, I shall replace them with photostatic copies at your request.

Before I get into an explanation of my records while in the armed services, however, I should first answer your question concerning the Shinto ceremony. Although the procedures concerning the Shinto ceremony were new to me, I still am not affected by the ruling for I did not go through either the Shinto or Buddhist ceremonies. I am a Protestant of the Baptist Church and would not have gone through such a ceremony without a Christian pastor or minister.

In reference to my service, I will try to list chronologically my service from July 1944 through August 1948. After induction in July 1944 at Fort Logan, Colo., I was sent to Camp Blanding, Fla., for infantry basic training in preparation for becoming a replacement for the Four Hundred and Forty-second Combat Infantry Regiment, then fighting in Europe. However, after completing 14 of the required 17 weeks of training, I was chosen with a few fellow Nisei, or Japanese-Americans, to go to the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Fort Snelling, Min. Here, I went through 10 months of extensive schooling in the Japanese language and all of its military aspects. I graduated from MISLS in August 1945 as a technician fourth grade and was sent to Camp Anza, Calif.

Within a few days of graduation at MISLS, I was bound for the Philippines. During a short but active period in the Philippines, I was engaged in interrogation work from XYZ Section of General Headquarters at Santa Ana, just outside the city of Manila, and most of the work was done at Luzon Camp No. 1 and New Bilibid Prison. In early October 1945, I was sent by plane to Tokyo with the advance echelon of ATIS (Allied Translation and Interpretation Section) via Okinawa.

In November 1945, I joined the One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Language Detachment of the Twenty-fourth Infantry Division, where I worked with the Provost Marshal's Office, Twenty-fourth Reconnaissance Troop, Judge Advocate Section, and Division G-2 as an interpreter. Here, I was promoted to technician third grade. During this time, I chanced to work on several occasions in conjunction with the Okayama Prefecture Counterintelligence Office and became interested in this type work. In February 1946, I made application to General Headquarters for transfer into the Counterintelligence Corps, which was effected in June of the same year.

I was then sent from the Four Hundred and Forty-first Counterintelligence-Headquarters in Tokyo to the CIC Metropolitan Unit in Yokohama, with whom I remained until my discharge in 1948. During the summer of 1946, I was in charge of the German and Italian interment restricted areas in the Hakone Section of Japan. After graduation from Counterintelligence Corps Training School in Tokyo in January of 1947, and being appointed a warrant officer in April 1947, I became repatriation officer at the Yokohama Headquarters.

The enclosed certificates will briefly bear out the above statements.

I have taken measures to obtain the letters which you have requested of Cheyenne residents and due to the fact that the Helicopter Division of Bell Aircraft Corp. with whom I am now employed is in the process of moving its facilities to Fort Worth, Tex., and my address here in Buffalo is temporary, I have taken the liberty of asking that these letters be sent directly to you in Washington.

I hope that the above letters will reach you shortly, and that with the information I have supplied, you will have sufficient information to proceed with the private bill in favor of legal entry for my fiancée, Miss Michiko Okuda.

I remain,

Respectfully yours,

PAUL S. TANI.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 2289) should be enacted.

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